

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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R 141642Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8494

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 0437

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, DA

SUBJ: FY '74 INTER-NATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM

REF: COPENHAGEN'S A-18, JANUARY 23

1. EMBASSY'S LABATT HAS DISCUSSED PROJECT FOR A TWO-MAN TEAM TO INVESTIGATE FLEX-TIME IN U.S. WITH BOTH DANISH EMPLOYERS FEDERATION AND DANISH TRADE UNION FEDERATION (LO). BOTH ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED IN PROJECT AND HAVE NOMINATED TOP-LEVEL OFFICIALS TO PARTICIPATE.
2. EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE POUL SCHADEPOULSEN, CHIEF OF NEGOTIATING DEPT, DANISH EMPLOYERS CONFEDERATION. LO REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE WERNER SORENSEN, CHIEF OF LEGAL DIVISION, DANISH TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (LO). SORENSEN EXPECTED TO BE ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT OF LO LATER THIS SPRING.
3. THE HIGH-LEVEL OF REPS SELECTED BY THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS IS INDICATION OF DEGREE OF INTEREST IN FLEX-TIME PROJECT. THE ORGANIZATIONS HOPE TO USE VISIT TO U.S. TO STIMULATE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF FLEX-TIME SYSTEMS TO DANISH LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS.
4. HOWEVER, THOMAS NIELSEN, CHAIRMAN OF LO, WILL BE HOST FOR FIRST ORDINARY CONGRESS OF EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (ETUC) MAY 23-25. HE INFORMED LABATT FEB 7 THAT BECAUSE OF CONGRESS HE WOULD BE UNABLE TO SPARE SORENSEN FOR TRIP TO U.S. UNTIL JULY OR AUGUST. THIS TIMING WOULD ALSO BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVE.

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SCHADE-POULSEN.

5. EMB THEREFORE REQUESTS THREE-MONTH EXTENTION OF JUNE 30 LIMITATION

ON COMMENCING TRAVEL ON FY '74 PROGRAM FUNDS. EMBASSY MUST ASSURE CANDIDATES SOME MONTHS IN ADVANCE THAT TRIP WILL TAKE PLACE AND RATHER EXTENSIVE ADVANCE PLANNING WILL BE NECESSARY.

UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES EMBASSY WOULD PREFER HOLD THE TWO PLACES PRESENTLY RESERVED FOR THIS PROJECT UNDER FY '74 FUNDS, IF TIME-WAIVER CAN BE GRANTED, RATHER THAN RELY ON FY '75 FUNDS BEING MADE AVAILABLE SO EARLY IN NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: EMB WOULD APPRECIATE THREE-MONTH EXTENSION ON TIME OF TRAVEL LIMITATION FOR THE TWO GRANTEES IN QUESTION.

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